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## NEWS.

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MR. B. E. FERNOW, Director of the New York State School of Forestry, Cornell University, will give a course of lectures on forestry at The University of Chicago during the summer quarter.

DR. ROSCOE POUND, whose studies on the phytogeography of Nebraska have made him well known as a botanist, has been appointed a member of the new Supreme Court Commission, which is to assist the Supreme Court of Nebraska to clear up its docket. The work of the court is far in arrears, and the commissioners are *de facto* justices. Dr. Pound is winning laurels in his vocation as well as in his avocation.

MR. EDWARD F. BIGELOW, the editor of the Nature and Science department of *St. Nicholas*, has had prepared compressed tablets after Sachs' formula for making nutrient solution. Two of the tablets make a pint of the solution of usual strength. Two forms are made, those with and without ferric chlorid. The tablets are exceedingly convenient. Doubtless they can be purchased through Mr. Bigelow.

THE DEATH of J. G. Agardh on January 17, in his 88th year, removed a notable student of marine algae. His first paper on marine algae was published in 1836, and his last paper has just come to the writer's desk, not all the proof of which did the author live to read. His greatest work is the *Species Genera et Ordines Algarum*, and to this his last paper was a supplement. A brief résumé of his work appears in the *Journal of Botany* for April. His great collection, full of types, passes under the immediate control of the University of Lund.

THE following circular letter has been sent to many botanists in this country. As the committee find it difficult to ascertain the addresses of American botanists they desire that all botanists who may see this notice send their application for membership in the proposed association to DR. J. P. LOTSY, *Wageningen, Holland*, by postal card, even though they may not receive a copy of the circular:

The undersigned, convinced that a better organization of the botanists of the different countries would contribute in a most desirable manner to our mutual aim, viz., the progress of botany, have the honor to invite you to become a member of a new society to be called the *International Botanical Association*.

A general meeting will take place at Geneva, Switzerland, on the 7th of August next in the botanical laboratory of the university at 10 A. M.

During this meeting several questions will be submitted to the judgment of its members, and you are invited to propose orally or in writing such measures as you think it desirable that the new society should adopt.

The chief object of the association will be the establishment of a bibliographic periodical abstracting in a perfectly impartial manner all botanical publications in such a way that the important will be separated from the less so.

It will not—as some periodicals do—devote page after page to publications of questionable value, while most important works are put off with two or three lines or even not mentioned at all.

The abstracts will—at the desire of the contributors—be published in English, French, or German. All will be submitted to the judgment of an editor nominated by the association and responsible to it.

It is most desirable that the membership be as wide as possible, since this is the only way of making membership inexpensive. Under no circumstances will the membership cost more than \$6, including the free delivery of the periodical.

We wish to call your attention to another great advantage of the new society; by its means members who live in different parts of the globe will be brought into more intimate contact one with another and this will greatly facilitate the procuring of material for investigation and demonstration.

Under certain conditions to be discussed, accepted, or rejected at the general meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, the proprietors of the *Botanisches Centralblatt* have consented that their journal become the property of the association.

The call is signed by Bornet, Borzi, Bower, Celakovsky, Chodat, Fairchild, Farlow, Goebel, Lotsy, Nawaschin, Raciborski, Rauwenhoff, Schimper, Stahl, Warming, and v. Wettstein.